

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## H. CON. RES. 240

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### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of a national day  
of prayer and remembrance for the victims of  
Hurricane Katrina and encouraging all Ameri-  
cans to observe that day.



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Whereas on August 25, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the southeast tip of Florida as a Category 1 hurricane;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina moved into the Gulf of Mexico, rapidly intensifying to a Category 5 hurricane and, on August 29, 2005, made landfall on the Gulf coast as a Category 4 hurricane with 140 mile-per-hour winds, dev-

astating communities and towns in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana;

Whereas the levees protecting the city of New Orleans, Louisiana from Lake Pontchartrain failed, causing heavy flooding in the city and inflicting incredible human and material damage;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina caused the evacuation of the city of New Orleans, marking the first time a major American city has been completely evacuated;

Whereas the number of individuals killed by Hurricane Katrina is estimated to be in the hundreds;

Whereas the damage to human life and the fabric of families torn apart by Hurricane Katrina is inestimable;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina has inflicted enormous damage to homes and businesses along the Gulf Coast, with damage estimates in the hundreds of billions of dollars;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina left an estimated five million people without power, and it may be months before all power is restored;

Whereas the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida have received federal disaster declarations;

Whereas Hurricane Katrina ranks among the worst natural disasters in our Nation's history;

Whereas years of intense effort will be required to recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina and to rebuild the Gulf Coast;

Whereas the American people have an inherent spirit of will-power and strong resilience;

Whereas the American people have opened their hearts and their homes to the victims of Hurricane Katrina, shel-

tering its victims, providing food and medical assistance, and donating hundreds of millions of dollars to the relief effort;

Whereas Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco declared August 31, 2005, to be a day of prayer in the State of Louisiana, and asked that all Louisianans take time that day to pray for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and their rescuers; and

Whereas President George W. Bush has proclaimed September 16, 2005, to be a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of Hurricane Katrina: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
 2   *concurring)*, That Congress supports the goals and ideals  
 3 of a national day of prayer and remembrance for the vic-  
 4 tims of Hurricane Katrina and encourages all Americans  
 5 to observe that day.

Passed the House of Representatives September 14, 2005.

Attest:

*Clerk.*